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**The Center for Slavic & East European Studies**

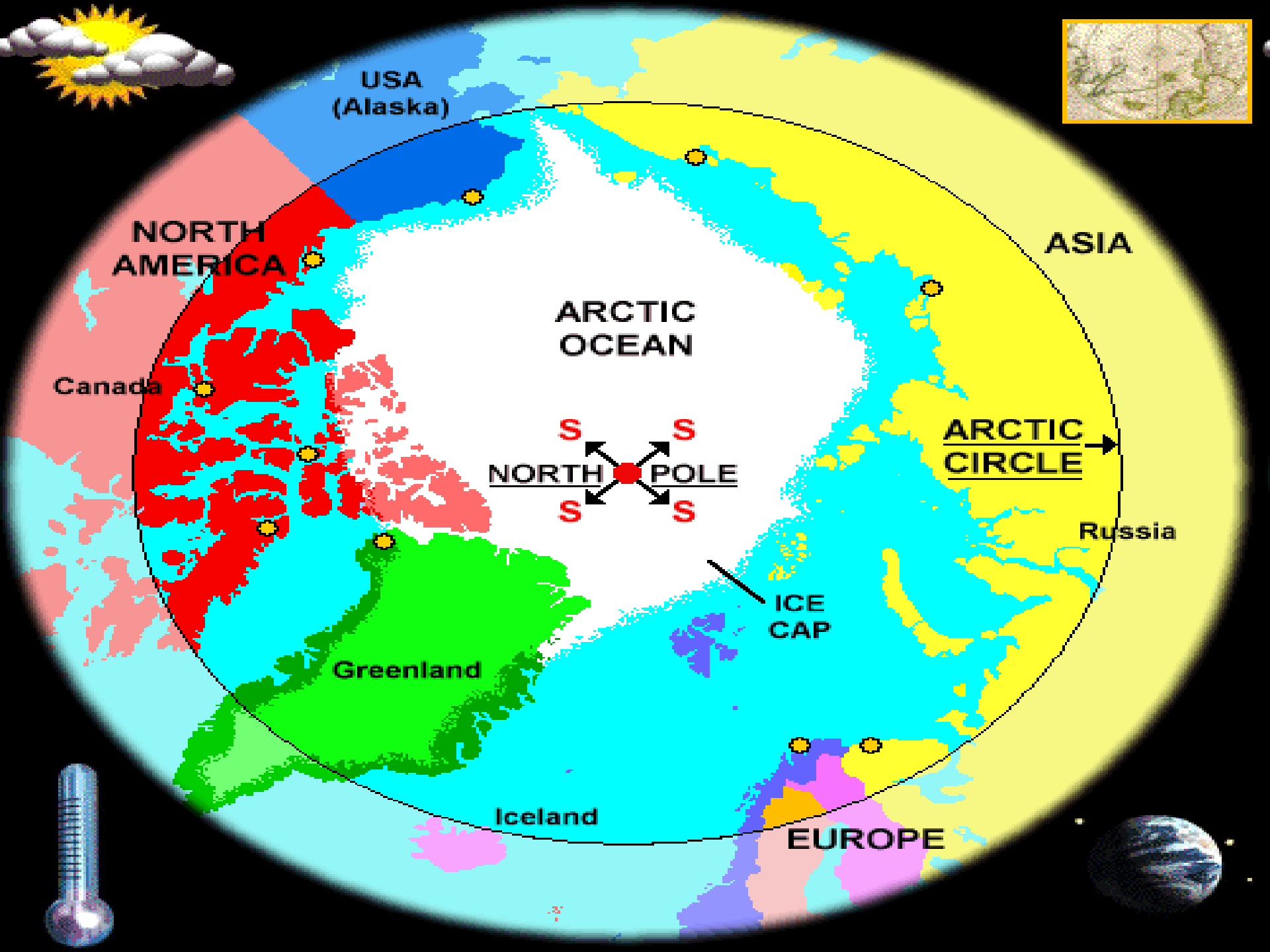
# The Arctic



# What is it?

## ■ In the Arctic

- Trees don't grow
- Summer is never warmer than 50°F
- The sun doesn't set on June 21 (light all day)
- The sun doesn't rise on December 21 (dark all day)



USA  
(Alaska)

ASIA

NORTH  
AMERICA

ARCTIC  
OCEAN

S S  
NORTH POLE  
S S

ARCTIC  
CIRCLE

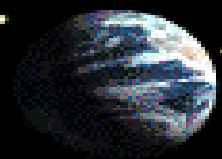
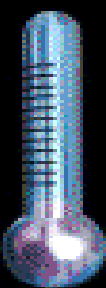
Russia

Greenland

ICE  
CAP

Iceland

EUROPE



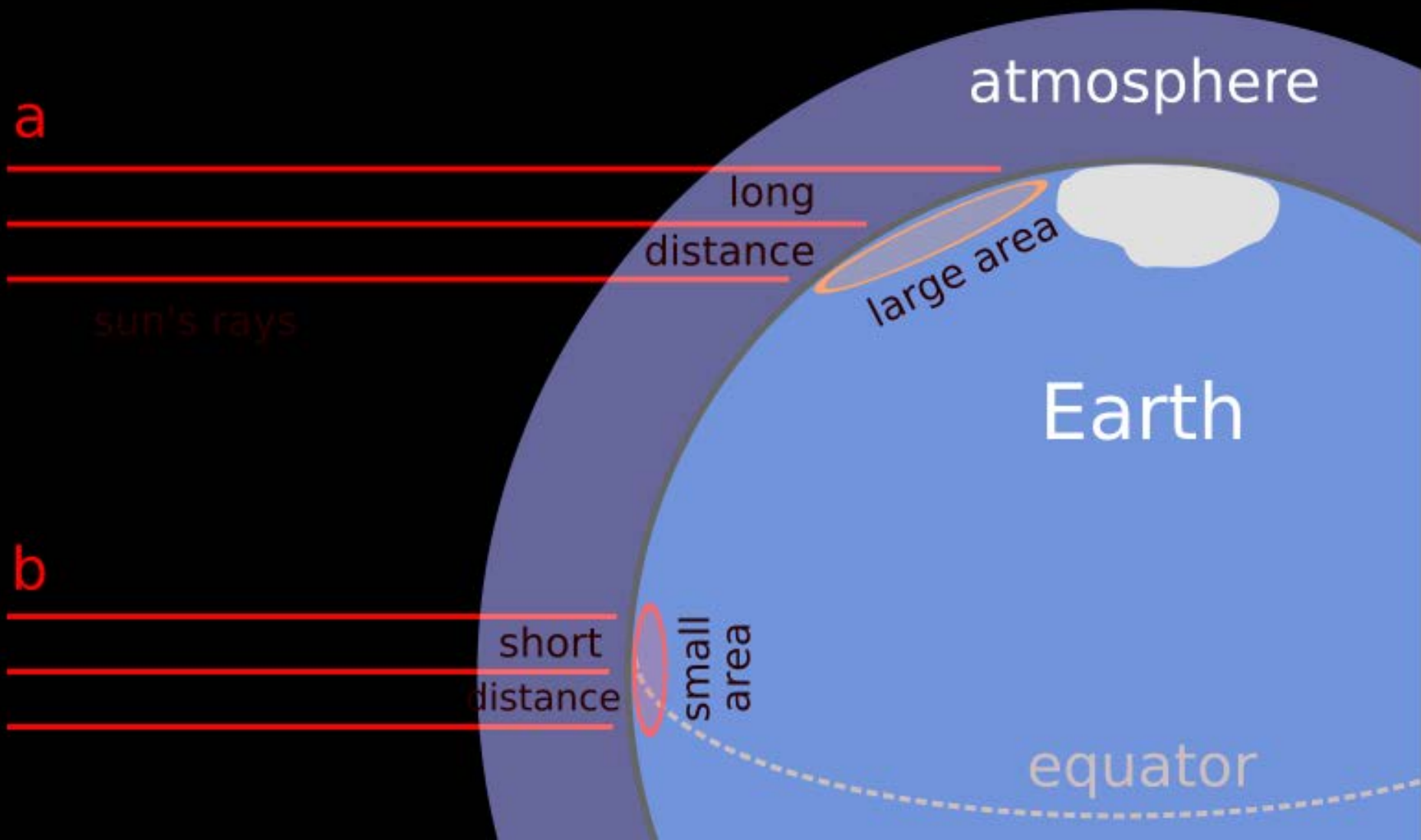
# Countries

- Canada
- United States (Alaska)
- Russia
- Greenland
- Norway
- Sweden
- Finland



# Climate

- Not much snow or rain
- Winter
  - VERY cold -18°F
  - Windy
  - Snow on ground for 6 months
- Summer- 1 month
  - Cloudy, not much sun
  - Cool 50°F
  - Warmest month is July



# Animals

- Polar Bears, Walrus, Musk Ox, Arctic Fox, Wolves, Arctic Hare, Caribou/ Reindeer
- NO Penguins
  - They only live in Antarctica





# Plants

- Lichen, Cloud berries, grass and wildflowers
- No trees
- Strong, big steams and grow close to the ground
- No farming and very few plants
  - Short growing season
  - Cold





PHOTO: USFWS

# People

- Most people are native to the Arctic
  - tribes
- Diet- fish, seals, whale, caribou, berries, plants
- Transportation- NO cars
  - Dog sleds in the winter (snowmobiles in some areas)
  - Small boats in the summer
- Towns and cities growing
  - Sewerage, food markets, internet, tourism



# Why is it important?

- Animals, Plants, and Environment
- Natural Resources
  - Oil, minerals, coal, diamonds
  - Helps government
- People moving to the Arctic
  - Good and bad effects on the area





Drilling for oil in Alaska. Photo credit: Mineral Management Services

# Russia

- 9 time zones
- Siberia
  - 200 cities
  - Diamonds
    - 4<sup>th</sup> largest producer in the world
- 15% of population is native
  - Criminals
  - Workers



